AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) A method in a computing system of associating metadata with a media entity comprising:

identifying a first media entity located within a data store;

receiving user input defining a category that includes identifies the first media entity as belonging to a distinguished category;

receiving user input designating a portion of a map of a the data store containing the first media entity as corresponding to the distinguished category;

specifying attributing metadata for to the first media entity indicating that applies it belongs to each media entity in the distinguished category;

automatically identifying a second media entity belonging to the category based on the containment of the second media entity inlocated within the designated portion of the map; and

based upon the location of the second media entity within the designated portion of the map, automatically attributing the specified metadata to the second media entity indicating that it belongs to the distinguished category.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28 wherein identifying the first and second media entities includes crawling a web site.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28 wherein further comprising selectingdefining the distinguished category includes by examining a path of a URI at which the first media entity is identified.

31.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 28 ~~wherein~~ further comprising selecting~~defining~~ the distinguished category ~~includes~~ by examining a web site name at which the first media entity is identified.

32.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 28 wherein ~~specifying~~ attributing metadata includes parsing a file name of the first or second media entity.

33.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 32 ~~including~~ further comprising using a metadata dictionary to store a first string in the metadata when a second string is identified in the file name.

34.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 28 wherein ~~specifying~~ attributing metadata includes prompting an operator to enter metadata based upon the ~~defined~~ distinguished category.

35.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 28 wherein ~~specifying~~ attributing metadata includes extracting metadata from the first media entity.

36.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 28 further comprising~~including~~ comparing the specified metadata with known good metadata.

37.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 28 further comprising~~including~~ checking the validity of the identified media entities.

38.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28 wherein the media entities are selected from the group consisting of text, audio, video, ~~or~~ and images.

39.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 28 wherein the metadata conforms to one or more of a Dublin Core standard, an MPEG standard, or an XML standard.

40.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium whose contents cause a computing system to perform a method of associating metadata with a media entity, the method comprising:

identifying a first media entity located within a data store;

receiving user input defining a category that includes identifies the first media entity as belonging to a distinguished category;

specifying attributing metadata for to the first media entity indicating that applies it belongs to each media entity in the distinguished category;

automatically identifying a second media entity within the data store belonging to the distinguished category; and

based upon belonging to the category, automatically attributing the specified metadata to the second media entity indicating that it belongs to the distinguished category.

41.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 40 wherein identifying the first and second media entities includes crawling a web site.

42.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 40 wherein further comprising selectingdefining the distinguished category includes by examining a path of a URI at which the first media entity is identified.

43.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 40 wherein further comprising selectingdefining the distinguished category includes by examining a web site name at which the first media entity is identified.

44.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 40 wherein ~~specifying~~ attributing metadata includes parsing a file name of the first or second media entity.

45.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 44 ~~including~~ further comprising using a metadata dictionary to store a first string in the metadata when a second string is identified in the file name.

46.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 40 wherein ~~specifying~~ attributing metadata includes prompting an operator to enter metadata based upon the ~~defined~~ distinguished category.

47.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 40 wherein ~~specifying~~ attributing metadata includes extracting metadata from the first media entity.

48.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 40 further comprising ~~including~~ comparing the specified metadata with known good metadata.

49.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 40 further comprising ~~including~~ checking the validity of the identified media entities.

50.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 40 wherein the media entities are selected from the group consisting of text, audio, video, ~~or~~ and images.

51.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40 wherein the metadata conforms to one or more of a Dublin Core standard, an MPEG standard, or an XML standard.

52.   (Currently Amended) A data structure for associating metadata with a media entity comprising:

a category identifying one or more media entities;

metadata that applies to each media entity in the category;

one or more rules for <u>automatically</u> identifying a media entity belonging to the

category,

such that the contents of the data structure may be used to <u>automatically</u> associate

the metadata with identified media entities belonging to the category.

53.   (New)   The method of claim 40 further comprising receiving user input designating a portion of a map of the data store containing the first media entity as corresponding to the distinguished category.